MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

19 MAY 1982

Israel

IDF and Jerusalem radios provided live coverage of the 19 May Knesset debate on Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres' motion of no confidence in the Likud government. Peres opened the debate with a sharp attack on the government's economic policies. Finance Minister Yoram Aridor then replied for the government.

Earlier, Jerusalem radio reported that Prime Minister Menahem Begin will not resign before the no-confidence vote, even if he learns that the government will be defeated. Nor will he resign in the event of a tie, according to IDF radio. Jerusalem television disagreed however, saying Begin will resign if it becomes clear to him that the coalition will not obtain a majority. Jerusalem radio said the Tehiya faction would vote against the government; IDF radio said that if the government is defeated, the National Religious Party, TAMI and Agudat Yisra'el will favor holding early elections.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

On 19 May Iraqi forces launched a "widescale attack" on Iranian positions north of Khorramshahr, inflicting "grave losses" on the Iranians and forcing them to retreat, according to an armed forces communique carried by Baghdad Voice of the Masses radio.

An earlier military communique carried by Baghdad radio reported 112 Iranians killed during fighting in the same area on 17 and 18 May. The communique also claimed that one Iranian plane was shot down in a dogfight over the Ash-Shihabi area.

Iranian forces continued to exchange gunfire with the Iraqis in the western operational sectors of Iran and consolidated their positions in the southern operational sector, according to an armed forces communique carried by Tehran radio.

Iraq-Saudi Arabia

Bilateral relations and the way Arab leaders should confront the dangers threatening the Arab nation were among the subjects discussed at a meeting between Saudi King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Tariq 'Aziz, SPA reported. In a statement to SPA at the end of his visit to Saudi Arabia, 'Aziz said that during the meeting he acquainted the king with Iraq's position in its conflict with Iran.

Lebanon

Security Situation -- The joint command of the Lebanese Nationalist Movement and the PLO has decided to withdraw armed men from the center of Sidon and to arrest all those who disguise themselves behind the banner of the Nationalist Movement and the Palestinian revolution to distort the purpose of bearing arms, the clandestine Voice of Palestine radio reported. The radio said the people of Sidon responded to the joint command's call to close businesses and participate in the funeral of Nasirite popular organization member Rafiq Bashashah. However, Voice of Lebanon radio said the people of Sidon were striking to denounce the recent bloody incidents in the city and have refused to bury Bashashah unless his murderers are arrested.

Noting the public concern about recent factional clashes in Sidon, Tripoli, Beirut and elsewhere, the Voice of Palestine said the Palestinians and Lebanese nationalists must admit to having made mistakes, must revise their problem-solving methods and promote better relations with the masses.

Syria

Relations With PLO -- President Hafiz al-Asad received PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat and Political Department Chief Faruq Qaddumi in Damascus, according to Damascus radio. The talks focused on strengthening the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front, on convening a front summit conference in the near future and on the situation in Lebanon.

Denial of Paris Incident -- Syria's Paris Embassy issued a statement strongly denying accusations that Syria was responsible for the explosion outside the AL-WATAN AL-'ARABI offices in April and condemning the wave of anti-Syrian campaigns in France, Damascus radio reported.

Egypt

Military Integration With Sudan -- Defense Minister 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah met in Khartoum with Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri for talks on "issues of integration" between the Sudanese and Egyptian Armed Forces, including the intention to unify the two armies' military terminology and insignia, SUNA reported. Numayri and Ghazalah decided to set up technical committees to consider the possibilities of integration and cooperation in certain military-economic projects.

Tabah Dispute -- The Egyptian-Israeli committee for settling the Tabah dispute decided to invite the Sinai multinational peacekeeping force and observers to move to the Tabah area during the transitional period before arbitration is carried out on the demarcation dispute, MENA reported.

Arab Ties With Zaire, Costa Rica

Calling Zaire's decision to resume diplomatic relations with Israel a regrettable one, Saudi Arabia announced it had decided to sever relations with Zaire, according to a Foreign Ministry statement carried by Riyadh television. The statement said the Zairian decision contravenes the resolutions of the OAU and the Afro-Arab conference. It added that the reasons which originally led Zaire to sever its relations with Israel still exist. A Kuwaiti National Assembly statement called the Zairian decision "hostile and irrational," KUNA reported.

Meanwhile, Islamic Conference Organization (ICO) Secretary General Habib Chatti, in statements to 'UKAZ and AL-MADINAH, called on Zaire to rescind its decision, SPA reported. According to Riyadh radio, the secretariat general of the ICA addressed a memo to its members drawing their attention to the gravity of Zaire's action. Chatti is expected to meet with African ambassadors in Saudi Arabia on 19 May to hand them a statement from the organization, the radio said.

In other developments, the ICO called on its members to sever relations with Costa Rica for transferring its embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem, Riyadh radio reported. The ICO secretary general addressed a letter to Costa Rica asking it to reconsider its decision, the radio said.

PDRY-Omani Relations

The first direct official contact between the PDRY and Oman, to discuss the issue of restoring relations between the two countries, will take place at a meeting in Kuwait on 29 May, INA reported citing the Kuwaiti paper AL-WATAN.

Afghanistan

A bomb exploded in the Soviet residential area of Kabul on 16 May killing 5 to 10 Afghan guards, AFP reported. Meanwhile, on 15 May Afghan rebels reportedly killed 275 Soviet soldiers in an ambush near Barikot, according to the Karachi newspaper DAWN.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

South Asia

Vol VIII No 097 *19 May 1982*

MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW 1

AFGHANISTAN

Karmal, Delegation Leave for East Berlin C 1
Kiev, Tashkent Stopovers C 1
AFP: Bomb Explodes in Soviet Residential Area C 2
Rebels Reportedly Kill 275 Russian Soldiers C 2
[Karachi DAWN 16 May]

BANGLADESH

Atiaul Karim Named New Foreign Secretary D 1
PRC Journalist Delegation Arrives in Dacca D 1
Briefs: Permanent Representative to UN D 1

IRAN

Supreme Defense Council Holds Session I 1
Armed Forces Joint Staff Communique 911 I 1
Zaire Warned Against Relations With Israel I 2
Lavasani, Kamyab Depart for African Tours I 2
Petroleum Minister Comments on Oil Price Problem I 3
Nationalization of Foreign Trade Urged I 3
[JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI 8 May]
Shipbuilding Deal Concluded With Yugoslavia I 4
IRNA Reports Barter Agreement Signed With Greece I 5
NVOI Assails Iranian Coverage of Afghan Events I 5
Radio Iran on Tehran, Karmal Regime Cooperation I 6
Radio Iran on Treatment of Religious Minorities I 6
Prosecutor General on Opposition, Courts I 8
[JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI 4 May]
Hormozgan Governor General on Budget Allocation I 8
Briefs: Arms, Transceiver Discoveries; I 10
Trade With Pakistan; Trade With Bulgaria;
Direct Telecommunications Links

KARMAL, DELEGATION LEAVE FOR EAST BERLIN

LD181714 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 18 May 82

[Excerpt] Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and chairman of the DRA Revolutionary Council, heading a high-ranking Afghan party and government delegation, left for Berlin this morning by special airplane for an official and friendly visit to the friendly country of the GDR at the invitation of the general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council.

Members of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and secretaries; members of the party Central Committee; members of the Revolutionary Council Presidium; the chairman and members of the DRA Council of Ministers; members of the Supreme Court; deputies and members of the National Fatherland Front National Committee Executive Board; members of the High Council of Islamic Affairs and their deputy chairmen; heads and leadership of the Democratic Women of Afghanistan and Democratic Youth of Afghanistan; the head and members of the Afghan trade unions Central Council; members of the Central Council of Afghan farmers unions; leadership of Pioneers; a number of generals of the armed forces; officers; senior government officials; the Kabul governor; the Kabul mayor; ambassadors and charges d'affaires of friendly countries in Kabul were present at Kabul airport to see Karmal and his entourage off.

Members of the high-ranking DRA party and government delegation who are accompanying Karmal on his visit to the GDR include Nur Ahmad Nur, member of the Politburo and secretary of the PDPA Central Committee; Vice Chairman of the Revolutionary Council Abdorrashid Arian; Minister of Foreign Affairs Shah Mohammad Dost; Minister of Public Works engineer Nazar Mohammad; Minister of Transportation Sher Jan Mazduryar; Secretary of the Revolutionary Council Presidium Mohammad Anwar Farzam; and DRA Ambassador and representative extraordinary in the GDR Mohammad Shafiq.

Kiev, Tashkent Stopovers

LD181644 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 18 May 82

[Text] Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and chairman of the DRA Revolutionary Council, and his entourage arrived this afternoon in Kiev, the capital of Ukraine, on his way to GDR.

Babrak Karmal and the high-ranking DRA party and government delegation was welcomed at Kiev airport by the party and government leaders of the Ukraine, by Afghan students in Kiev and by the toilers of the city.

According to another report, Babrak Karmal and his entourage stayed for a short while in Tashkent, the capital of the Uzbek SSR. The airport was decorated with the national flags of the DRA, the USSR and Uzbek SSR.

Babrak Karmal was welcomed at Tashkent airport by Sharaf Rashidov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Communist Party of Uzbekistan; by I.B. Usmankhodzhayev, chairman of the Uzbek SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; by Narmakhonmadi Khudayberdyyev, chairman of the Uzbek SSR Council of Ministers; by other officials; by Afghan students in Tashkent and by representatives of Tashkent.

After a short rest, Babrak Karmal and the other members of the Afghan delegation left Tashkent.

AFP: BOMB EXPLODES IN SOVIET RESIDENTIAL AREA

BK181433 Hong Kong AFP in English 1424 GMT 18 May 82

[Text] New Delhi, 18 May (AFP) -- A bomb exploded on Sunday [16 May] in the Soviet residential area of Microrayon in Kabul, killing 5 to 10 Afghan guards and damaging part of the complex, Western diplomatic sources said here today.

The bomb, planted in a maintenance room, was apparently set by Moslem insurgents opposing the Soviet-backed Babrak Karmal regime.

Microrayon, situated near the Kabul international airport, was built after the Marxist coup in April 1978 and was finished after Soviet troops had marched into Afghanistan in December 1979.

The complex had been the target of several Moslem rebel attacks in the past.

Diplomats here gave reports on two other insurgent attacks in the Afghan capital over the past two weeks.

On May 8, a bomb exploded at a government textile officer's residence in the Qala-i-Fatullah-Khan District, killing the officer Saved Serajuddin and his protege Serajuddin, a member of the ruling People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan [PDPA].

Three unidentified occupants of the house were also seriously injured while the target of the attack, a young officer working in the Afghan secret police, KHAD, was however not present when the explosion occurred, the sources said.

On May 11, Moslem insurgents killed two party workers in broad daylight in front of the KHAD central office in the Darul-Uman District.

Meanwhile, the Afghan Government is conscripting more men for military service. On May 15, young Afghans in the streets were reportedly forced to board army trucks and taken to a nearby army office for enlistment.

REBELS REPORTEDLY KILL 275 RUSSIAN SOLDIERS

GF181104 Karachi DAWN in English 16 May 82 p 12

[Text] Peshawar, May 15. The mujahidin of Afghanistan are reported to have killed 275 Russian soldiers in an ambush which they carried on a paratroop camp and a radar station near Barikot.

According to reports reaching here from across the border, the radar station was completely destroyed during the action.

In retaliation the Russian jet fighters bombed the surroundings of Nurestan which resulted in the killing of dozens of innocent citizens, most of them women and children. A mosque in (Gawardesh) area was reported to have been demolished by the bombardment.

According to another report, the Russian forces led by armoured units have captured Panjsher Valley after a week-long fierce fighting. As many as 500 mujahidin are reported to have been martyred and several others injured during this heavy fighting.

Meanwhile, under the directives of Maulana Mohammad Afzal, prime minister of the newly formed horse-riding guerrilla mujahidin, a contingent of 2,000 mujahidin has been sent towards Tupkhana Road to capture the Tupkhana Road which is for the last six months under the Russian control.

ATTAUL KARIM NAMED NEW FOREIGN SECRETARY

BK181412 Dacca Domestic Service in English 1705 GMT 17 May 82

[Text] Attaul Karim, additional secretary, Water Resources Division, Ministry of Agriculture, has been named the next foreign secretary.

He will succeed Humayun Rashid Chowdhury, who has been assigned an important mission abroad.

PRC JOURNALIST DELEGATION ARRIVES IN DACCA

BK150028 Dacca Domestic Service in Bengali 1700 GMT 14 May 82

[Text] A five-member delegation of Chinese journalists led by the vice president of RENMIN RIBAO, Jiang Yuanchun, arrived in Dacca on a week-long visit to Bangladesh.

Leaders of [word indistinct] and [word indistinct] were among others on hand to receive the delegation at the airport. Chinese Ambassador to Bangladesh Liu Shujing was also present at the airport.

BRIEFS

PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE TO UN -- Dacca, 16 May (AFP) -- The government has appointed a 62-year-old retired army general and former diplomat, Lt. Gen. Khawaja Wasiuddin, as its permanent representative at the United Nations, it was officially announced. Gen. Wasiuddin, whose last Foreign Ministry assignment was Bangladesh's ambassador to France till 1979, will succeed Khawaja Mohammad Kaiser who retired a few months ago. He is married, has four children and is a keen golfer. [Text] [Hong Kong AFP in English 0522 GMT 16 May 82 BK]

SUPREME DEFENSE COUNCIL HOLDS SESSION

LD182116 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 18 May 82

[Text] According to a Central News Unit report, the Supreme Defense Council held a session tonight chaired by President Khamene'i, president of the Supreme Defense Council.

The session was attended by Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly and the imam's representative on the Supreme Defense Council; Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi; Brigadier General Zahirnezhad, chief of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran; Defense Minister Colonel Salimi; Sham'khani, the deputy commander of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps; Hojjat ol-Eslam Seyyed Ahmad Khomeyni; Foreign Minister Velayati; and Kamal Gharazi, chief of the War Publicity Staff.

The session reviewed the latest reports from the battlefronts and debated and exchanged views, whereupon decisions were made about future war plans.

ARMED FORCES JOINT STAFF COMMUNIQUE 911

LD181744 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 18 May 82

[Communique No 911 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. The forces of Islam achieve valuable successes every day with the blessing of the unity, sincerity and faith of the self-sacrificing children of Islam and the blood shed by the combatants of the armed forces, the self-sacrificing Guards Corps, the Mobilization forces of the Revolution Guards Corps, the militant clergy, the hardworking members of the reconstruction crusade, the brave gendarmerie warriors, the combatants of the police, the Muslim Kurdish pehmerga, the zealous tribal warriors, the devoted popular forces, the relief forces and supporting forces of the revolutionary establishments, private and public organizations -- of all those who deliver their powerful blows against the disintegrating bodies of the Saddamists.

During the past 24 hours, combatants of the battlefields, apart from liberating another part of the occupied areas in the Kushk sector and destroying the invader's war equipment, opened artillery fire on enemy positions on the other side of Arvand Rud, destroying one tank, four trenches and several Iraqi observation posts. Several Iraqi troops were also killed.

In other operational sectors in the south of the country the combatants of Islam, while continuing the task of consolidating their own positions, defended the areas under their protection and, by opening intense fire, prevented the enemy from moving.

Yesterday several residential districts in Abadan were demolished by the enemy's long-range weapon fire and several of our compatriots were wounded.

Gunfire continues to be exchanged in the western operation sectors of the country with our forces having firepower superiority. In the Meymak and Sumar sectors, the forces of Islam destroyed two engineering vehicles, several trenches and foxholes and one 106-mm gun of the enemy.

Along the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab and Gilan-e Gharb axes, our combatants opened fire on enemy positions, inflicting effective losses and damages on the invading forces and silencing their fire.

Exchanges of fire in the Marivan sector continued.

The forces of Islam fired on the Biarreh garrison, destroying enemy equipment, trenches and foxholes and setting the Sayyid Sadiq garrison gas station on fire. Buildings in the Sayyid Sadiq garrison were also damaged.

Thanks to our forces' fire, some enemy ammunition dumps and several assembly points were destroyed in Shushami-ye Bala and the Nowsud heights and several of the Saddamists were either killed or wounded.

ZAIRE WARNED AGAINST RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL

LD181744 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 18 May 82

[Statement issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran -- date not given]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. After the fanfared withdrawal of the Zionist forces from the Sinai Desert and the handing over of this Islamic-Arab land to the NATO forces, simultaneous with the struggles of the reactionary Arab regimes to return to the Arab world, the abject government of Husni Mubarak, that follower of As-Sadat's treacherous policies, the conspiracy of establishing diplomatic relations with the Zionist regime is underway by the other known servants of the world oppressors.

In the opinion of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the establishment of any diplomatic relations with the Zionist regime by any government and under any pretext is a treacherous prelude to legitimize the criminal and usurping regime of Israel.

We warn the Zairian Government, which is reported to have established diplomatic relations with the regime occupying Jerusalem, that it should draw a lesson from the fate of As-Sadat the traitor and the mercenary Egyptian regime and to beware the consequences of this improper measure, as today is the day of nations, and nations hate the usurping Israel.

LAVASANI, KAMYAB DEPART FOR AFRICAN TOURS

LD142112 Tehran IRNA in English 2017 GMT 14 May 82

[Text] Tehran, 14 May (IRNA) -- The political director general for African and Asian affairs, Mr Lavasani, and the international affairs deputy in the Foreign Ministry, Mr Kamyab, left Tehran for eleven African countries for strengthening and expansion of economic and political ties on Friday afternoon.

Mr Lavasani, who will visit Nigeria, Guinea, Sierra Leone, Ghana, Tanzania, Senegal, said that in his twenty day tour he would explain the positions of the Islamic Republic of Iran concerning the venue of the Nonaligned Conference with the officials of those countries. He added that Baghdad was not a true non-aligned country, but was completely aligned and with the outbreak of the war it had paved the way for more penetration by the superpowers in the region.

He also added that in his tour he would talk with local officials on establishing embassies of the Islamic Republic in each's country. Iran already has embassies in Ghana and Nigeria.

Meanwhile, Mr Kamyab, on his tour to Ethiopia, Kenya, Mozambique, Congo, Zimbabwe said that Iraq, by martyring the Algerian Foreign Minister Ben Yahia and by its aggression against the Islamic Republic of Iran, had shown contempt for the principles of non-alignment and thus cannot be eligible for hosting the conference. So he would talk on the change of venue of the conference with the African officials.

He added that during his fourteen day tour he would also talk about opening Iranian embassies in those countries and expanding mutual political and economic ties.

PETROLEUM MINISTER COMMENTS ON OIL PRICE PROBLEM

LD181132 Tehran IRNA in English 1058 GMT 18 May 82

[Text] Tehran, 8 May (IRNA) -- Determining the oil price was a political matter, according to Oil Minister Gharazi, speaking prior to his trip to take part in the OPEC session in Quito, Ecuador. He said he hoped the lot of the oil producing countries would improve, so that they would be able to determine oil prices themselves and would put a halt to the Saudi regime's efforts. Mr Gharazi, speaking at Mehrabad Airport, prior to his departure, said for 20 months now extensive campaigns had been launched by superpowers to break oil prices in order to buy oil for 28 dollars a barrel, 6 dollars less than the official OPEC price. He noted the U.S., British and Zionist banks aimed to cut the oil price using their dollar reserves.

The oil minister stated that the Saudi Oil Minister Zaki Yamani, has been ordered to push for OPEC's maximum oil production, but he did not see discussing this with Iran as being to his benefit. He added that he hoped to put a halt to Saudi efforts, with the help [words indistinct] and the strivings of the Islamic combatants in the war fronts so that oil producers themselves would determine oil prices.

He refuted claims of an oil glut on the international oil market, but he warned that a push to decrease OPEC's oil price should not be repeated.

Gharazi concluded by saying that the oil market was currently thriving since for 3 weeks now, the oil price has reached and even surpassed that of OPEC's.

NATIONALIZATION OF FOREIGN TRADE URGED

GF181355 Tehran JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI in Persian 8 May 82 p 9

[Editorial: "The Nationalization of Foreign Trade: A Great Change on the Way]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Last week the bill for the nationalization of foreign trade went in front of the Majlis for deliberation. Thirty-eight articles were approved. The nationalization of foreign trade is one of the very important and fundamental articles of the Constitution of the Islamic Republic which, if implemented, will cause immense changes in the economic makeup of the country.

With the implementation of this law it would no longer be the private gain of some profiteers which would determine the type, make of imported goods, the foreign dealer or the price for the purchaser. The government would have control over imports, and would base it on its popular policies. The government can thus eliminate the economic, political and cultural control of international plunderers over the Muslim people of Iran and also avoid reliance on one political and economic pole.

Another one of the aims which should be pursued following the approval of this bill would be granting priority to the expansion of commercial ties with the Muslim and oppressed nations of the world. In other words, the government, in order to realize the will of the martyr-nurturing people of Iran, which is the support of the Muslims and oppressed of the world, should, as much as possible, grant priority to such countries in the purchase of needed goods. These countries then would not be forced to sell their goods to international companies at lower prices and thus be exploited, nor would we have to purchase our needed goods at high prices from such plundering companies. Furthermore, when goods are imported for the sole profit of private importers, then similar goods produced at home cannot be competitive with the imported ones. This is because the domestically produced goods may be of lower quality and higher price due to lack of experience [in production]. They can only survive if they are completely protected by the government. With the nationalization of foreign trade the government can decisively stop the import of similar foreign goods no matter how superior in quality they are over the domestic ones and thus protect the domestic production.

The other important aim which can be pursued following the nationalization of foreign trade is the change of the consumer pattern and the adoption of Islamic values for these patterns. Prior to the victory of the Islamic revolution, the Western culture had rooted among our people to such an extent that no one wanted to use domestic goods. Everyone wanted to purchase the well-known foreign brands. The calamity had reached such proportions that the use of luxury goods had become a status symbol and people's characters were judged on the basis of the brand of their clothes, perfume or after shave!

Fortunately, following the victory of the Islamic revolution, such values have collapsed and the people are well adapted to a change of consumer patterns. Therefore, it is the duty of the government to implement such a change on the basis of Islamic values by taking over the import sector so we will attain economic self-sufficiency as fast as possible.

Up to now whenever there has been any reference to the nationalization of foreign trade, the main assumption has been the import sector. However, the more important aspect of this act is concerned with the export sector. So long as our exports are based solely on one item, oil, economic independence is not attainable. This is because an embargo on oil purchases by the superpowers may put us under pressure.

However, if the government can expand exports through better marketing -- this has fallen off since the victory of the Islamic revolution -- not only will the amount of our foreign currency earnings expand but it will also greatly help the economic independence of the country.

With the implementation of the bill for the nationalization of foreign trade the government can stop the big swindles that have so far taken place with respect to the return of currency earned by exports and also end the export of national wealth abroad for (?the benefit of the majority).

SHIPBUILDING DEAL CONCLUDED WITH YUGOSLAVIA

LD161956 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 16 May 82

[Text] According to a Central News Unit report, a Yugoslav shipbuilding delegation, which is currently visiting Iran at the invitation of the Iranian Government, continued talks today with the managing director of Islamic Republic Shipping and the Yugoslav ambassador in Iran.

At this meeting, which led to the signing of a contract between Iran and Yugoslavia for various ship purchases and their repairs in Iran and Yugoslavia, the managing director of Islamic Republic Shipping discussed the close and friendly relations between the two countries and emphasized that the Iranian Government was interested in increasing economic relations between the two countries, in particular in the shipbuilding industry.

In this connection, it was agreed that if Yugoslavia could offer a suitable time of delivery and suitable prices, Iran would order (?auxiliary) ships and two edible-oil container ships. Meanwhile, the Yugoslav Government has announced its readiness to repair the 40 merchant ships presently possessed by Iran. Also, in order to establish a passenger service in the Persian Gulf, Iran reviewed the possibility of purchasing two roll-on roll-off ships in addition to the 12 ships on order.

According to the managing director of Islamic Republic Shipping, these purchases, which are to be done on a barter basis, are worth $250 million, which is paid through the sale of oil to Yugoslavia.

The Iranian official said: Following final approval and agreement by the Iranian Government with the 7-year plan offered by this company, the number of Iran's merchant ships will increase from 50 to 86, increasing cargo capacity from 2.5 million to 8.5 million tons.

IRNA REPORTS BARTER AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH GREECE

LD131106 Tehran IRNA in English 0900 GMT 13 May 82

[Text] Beirut, 13 May (IRNA) -- According to a barter agreement signed between Iran and Greece, Iran will export crude oil to Greece and in return will import oil production and ships. The report indicated that following some discussions between the two countries, Greece will cooperate with Iran in the field of ship keeping [as received], petrochemical and fishing industries.

NVOI ASSAILS IRANIAN COVERAGE OF AFGHAN EVENTS

TA182051 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1730 GMT 18 May 82

[Unattributed commentary: "Being in Harmony With Ziaul Haq's Regime Is Beneath the Dignity of Our Islamic Republic"]

[Text] Dear compatriots: Certain measures have been adopted by our country's Islamic government toward leading foreign policy in a correct anti-imperialist direction, and this has the endorsement of our homeland's people. However, the fact cannot be ignored that our country's official policy in some instances, for example with respect to the Afghan problem, is not only unrealistic, but is precisely in the direction desired by the foes of the Iranian revolution. For instance, when we pay attention to the reports about Afghanistan that are disseminated by the Voice of our Islamic Republic, regrettably we see that reports in this connection are the exact reports selected by Western news agencies and which are fed to the people as reliable news.

At a time when all observers in Afghanistan are witnessing the stabilization of the situation and the successes of the people of that country in connection with the construction of a new society, suddenly one hears from the Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran reports fabricated by Western news media, for example about so-called clashes in the center of Kabul and similar cases. Naturally, this development cannot but arouse the concern of our homeland's people.

Indeed it is a matter for deliberation as to which factors have caused our Islamic Republic to pursue an anti-imperialist approach on the one hand and, in some instances, for example in the Afghan problem, to be in harmony with imperialist circles on the other hand.

Afghanistan is a democratic and liberated country whose people, as a result of the revolution's victory, have taken their destiny in their own hands and have terminated the rule of the arrogant. The popular system ruling over Afghanistan, from the viewpoint of its nature and its popular and anti-imperialist characteristic, is the natural ally of our revolution and Islamic Republic, and the leaders of the democratic government of that country also have repeatedly reiterated this. One of the reasons for the wrath and indignation of imperialist circles and the region's reaction toward democratic Afghanistan is this very fact. Consequently, it is not a secret to our country's officials that U.S. imperialism and the region's reaction have an identical and hostile approach with regard to emancipated Iran and democratic Afghanistan.

The fact that Ziaul Haq's regime -- which is dependent on the United States -- has transformed Pakistan into a base against democratic Afghanistan, and which is acting against revolutionary Afghanistan from this base through the Afghan counterrevolutionary forces, is something obvious. The fact that Pakistan is the base of Mohammad Zahir Shah, the major capitalists and landowners, heroin peddlers and various smugglers, different pro-American wings, including pseudoleftist groups, the fifth column of U.S. imperialism, namely, the Chinese Maoists, is something comprehensible.

World-devouring America -- this sworn enemy of nations -- is implementing its satanic plans with respect to Afghanistan by means of Pakistan, namely, the very thing that it is implementing with regard to our emancipated country by means of Turkey and Pakistan.

Now, the just question posed is: Why should the policy of our Islamic Republic in this connection be in the same line with the policy of Ziaul Haq -- the U.S. agent? Why should the propaganda organization of our revolutionary homeland feed the people as reliable news false reports fabricated by U.S. or British broadcasting stations?

Those who in Pakistan are acting against the people and Government of Afghanistan under the protection of the Ziaul Haqs and the control and leadership of U.S. experts are the very dregs of the toppled monarchical regime, the very major landowners and dependent capitalists, the very fugitive Afghan Oveysis and Azharis, who under the guise of Islam want to return once more to Afghanistan and to impose the rule of the feudals and the landlords over the people of that country.

Our homeland's people do not want to and cannot be in step and in harmony with the Afghan Bani-Sadrs, the Mojahedin, the Ranjbaris, the Peykaris and the Komelehs, and justly condemn their criminal activities which are carried out in the name and under the guise of Islam.

The Iranian people support and back the struggles of the Afghan people to foil the joint plots of imperialism and reaction, to stabilize the situation in the country and to build a new society based on social justice and democracy. Our homeland's people want the Islamic government to adopt a realistic policy with respect to the Afghan problem, to dissociate itself from the Ziaul Haqs, the Khalids, the Qabuses and the U.S. subservient regimes with regard to democratic Afghanistan, to warmly clasp the hand of friendship which has been and is being extended by the democratic Government of Afghanistan toward our nation, and to establish good neighborly and fraternal relations with this emancipated, anti-imperialist and popular country.

RADIO IRAN ON TEHRAN, KARMAL REGIME COOPERATION

GF171710 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian to Iran 1330 GMT 17 May 82

[Text] The regime of the highly Islamic republic of Ruhollah Khomeyni has handed over another 150 Afghan refugees to the Soviet puppet regime in that country. These 150 Afghans, who were part of the opposition to Babrak Karmal's regime and were fighting the occupying Soviet force, took refuge in Iran around 2 weeks ago.

Khomeyni's Islamic revolution guards delivered these brother Afghans -- all of whom are Muslims -- to the agents of the Karmal regime and soldiers of the Red Army at the Eslam Qal'eh border post in handcuffs. According to dispatches, these individuals were taken to Pol-e Charkhi prison in Kabul for questioning. This is not the first time that Khomeyni's cronies have arrested Afghan freedom fighters and delivered them to the Soviets or their puppets in Afghanistan. Thousands of Afghan refugees have previously been returned to Afghanistan in this manner.

Many Afghan refugees have fled Iran following the cooperation of the Islamic republican regime of Khomeyni and that of Babrak Karmal and the Soviet occupying forces in the arrest and return of Afghan freedom fighters and refugees. They have escaped Khomeyni's Islam and have taken refuge in Pakistan, India and Germany [as heard].

RADIO IRAN ON TREATMENT OF RELIGIOUS MINORITIES

GF151242 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian to Iran 1330 GMT 14 May 82

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] With the execution of another group of Baha'is by the mullahs, the bloody suppression of religious minorities has once again become the topic of the day.

So far, about 300 Baha'is have been executed on orders from the mullahs. A large number, especially in Shiraz, under pressure from the guards, have been forced to pretend they have changed their religion and become Muslim. [passage indistinct]

Accused of being agents of imperialism and Zionism, Baha'is are facing the firing squads. Obviously, travel to Israel is just an excuse, because even those Baha'is who have not traveled to Israel are not safe from the aggression of mullahs and guards.

All Baha'is have been fired from government offices and institutions and factories affiliated with the government. Their children are not allowed to attend schools and they are prevented from leaving Iran. This year, when the identity cards are changed to Islamic ID's, religion will be included in the identity cards. Identity cards will not be distributed to Baha'is, and without ID cards, they will not be able to receive food ration coupons. Even now, they can only obtain their goods from the black market.

Therefore, if Khomeyni's regime stays in power, a black death awaits all the Baha'is. So far, the Islamic guards have kidnapped a large number of Baha'i children and have forced them into Islam. The parents are not allowed to visit these children. According to remarks made by Mullah Rabbani-Amlashi, Baha'is are not subject to the protection of law.

But, the Zoroastrians, Jews and Christians, who are supposedly protected by law and are officially recognized by the constitution of Khomeyni's regime, are no better off than the Baha'is.

In Yazd, a number of Zoroastrian girls have been kidnapped by guards and Hezbollahi ruffians and their parents have been told that their daughters have become Muslim and married this or that guard or committee member. When the parents insist on visiting their daughters, they are told that they are not allowed to meet with a Muslim woman. Khomeyni supporters not only kidnap girls, they also kidnap married women and [words indistinct]. For some time, the Yazd Zoroastrians have not been allowing their daughters and women out of the house and they are never allowed out alone.

The situation of the Jews is far worse than that of the Zoroastrians. They are not only prevented from going out of Iran, they are also forced to chant slogans against the only Jewish state -- Israel -- and call for Israel's destruction. Mullahs and guards are forcing the Iranian Jews to attend anti-Israel marches and to support the Islamic Republic's policy on destruction of all the Jews in Israel and the establishment of an Islamic and Arab republic in that country.

So far, a large number of Jews and Baha'is have been executed on baseless charges of spying for Israel, even though Israel does not need to endanger the lives of these oppressed people to get information on what is going on in Iran.

Armenians and Assyrians, who are for the most part engaged in technical and agriculture work, are facing less economic pressure, but culturally and socially, their situation is no better than that of the Jews and Zoroastrians. They also are forced to respect the Islamic laws, and their houses are not safe from the attacks of guards.

Lately, thousands of communist Armenians have been imported from the Soviet Armenian SSR. These people are showing that they are so fond of the living in the Islamic Republic, that they have returned from the Soviet Union. The Soviet Union, which does not allow its citizens to go abroad even as tourists incidentally, has become democratic and has granted exit visas to these people and thousands of Azerbaijan communists. Their mission is to help the expansion of [words indistinct].

PROSECUTOR GENERAL ON OPPOSITION, COURTS

GF181150 Tehran JOMMURI-YE ESLAMI in Persian 4 May 82 p 12

[Report on "exclusive" interview granted by Prosecutor General Rabbani-Amlashi to JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI correspondent on 4 May -- place not given]

[Excerpts] Forty of the ringleaders of the hypocrites minigroups have been killed. Ayatollah Mohammad Mehdi Rabbani-Amlashi, speaking to the JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI correspondent in an exclusive interview, added: I am sure you realized what happened after hearing the sounds of shooting from various places during the past few days. Praise be to God, a large number of safe houses were discovered yesterday (2 May); 40 persons were killed in those clashes and about 20 were arrested. Among those killed, four or five have been identified as ringleaders of the group's central cadre.

He then talked of the anticorruption court: The anticorruption court has been highly effective in preventing corruption and will be even more effective in the future. In an Islamic republic we cannot permit individuals to do as they like, but you will notice that the anticorruption court is not concerned with what the people do secretly, that is, it is not there for inquiry or investigation. However, it does interfere in and tries to prevent obscenities which are openly committed in the Islamic Republic of Iran, which has as its law the holy Koran, because this is a legal and Islamic obligation.

He continued: All our revolutionary organizations did not [at first] have the facilities which were established later. It was later that we gained experience. We plunged into everything without experience or facilities and made some mistakes, but we are confident that all of them, or at least most of them, were not intentional.

The state prosecutor general then spoke about the courts and the Islamic revolution courts. We have a definite need for Islamic courts because our country is Islamic and our law is Islamic. There can be no doubt that our courts and judiciary should conform to Islamic norms.

HORMOZGAN GOVERNOR GENERAL ON BUDGET ALLOCATION

GF121250 Bandar-e 'Abbas Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 12 May 82

[Interview with Hormozgan Province Governor General Kohzadi by Bandar-e 'Abbas Central News Unit correspondent; date, place not given -- recorded]

[Excerpts] [Question] Brother Kohzadi, there was a governors general seminar in Tehran in which you participated. Please tell us about the results of the session and decisions made on the administrative division of the country.

[Answer] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. The session was held in the Interior Ministry to discuss the new plan for the administrative division of the country. Since there are a large number of provinces and since some new provinces will be added, and due to the concentration of all work at the center causing a shortcoming in looking into problems of the provinces, [a plan has been worked out] similar to that of the revolution guards dividing the country into districts.

For example, two small provinces form a state and this state will be under the control of a state governor [vali]. The state governor has powers like those of the interior minister. The decisions will be taken there and thus the need for appealing to the center and the associated administrative problems will be eliminated. General policies will be decided upon at the center under the auspices of the representatives of the Majlis and the Cabinet members who would authorize the state to perform administrative procedures.

For instance, Khorasan Province itself becomes a state, but Hormozgan, Kerman, and Sistan va Baluchestan Provinces will be combined as one state, having three governors general under one state governor. The state governor has approximately the same administrative powers as the interior minister for solving difficulties.

[Question] Has the budget for 1983 been allocated? How much is it and what are the priorities in the budget?

[Answer] Yes, fortunately 90 percent of last year's budget has been absorbed. This province was one of the successful provinces in implementing its projects. The only difficulty we were encountering was the lack of manpower and technical skills in this province. Luckily, with God's grace, we were able to bring committed people and put them in charge and make the Hezbollahi responsible.

I have the pleasure to inform our dear listeners that next year's budget allocation is 450 million tumans which is allocated by the government for Hormozgan. Fourteen million tumans has been allocated for the facilities of urban institutions such as the construction of flood prevention dams. Seventy-two million tumans is for the education department, of which 48.3 million is for the equipment and construction of new primary schools, 15.8 million for intermediate schools and renovation or construction of buildings, and 8 million for secondary schools and for equipment, construction and renovation. The public health directorate of the province gets 58.7 million tumans. Eight million tumans of this is allocated for health services, 12.7 million for rural hygiene and treatment, and 38 million for environmental hygiene and supply of drinking water to rural areas.

Forty-four million tumans is the allocation for the housing and urban development department and 2.5 million tumans will be used for the construction of government buildings. Some 1.965 million tumans will be used for the construction of sports stadiums in the rural and district areas for use by and training of the youth. Four million tumans is allocated for the construction of preventitive facilities of cities such as flood dams and so on. Thirteen million tumans is allocated for construction of houses in southern ports due to the large number of employees. Another 13 million will be spent for living quarters and houses for technical employees in order to attract them for the reconstruction of the province. Six million tumans is allocated for the construction of low-cost houses to sell to the people; 3.825 million tumans is for post offices in urban and rural areas; 32 million tumans is the budget for the agricultural departments; 2 million tumans of this will be spent for rural drinking water projects. Nineteen million tumans will be allocated for rural institutions, 11 million for the expansion of agriculture and cattle breeding projects which will mainly be spent on Minab area projects. Some 4.4 million tumans is the budget for forestry.

Some 12.66 million tumans is allocated for small industries. This will be used to establish an industrial area in Bandar-'Abbas. The budget of the road and transportation department of the province is 121.8 million tumans, out of which 80 million will be used for expansion of secondary roads in rural areas; 3.5 million tumans will be spent for the maintenance or roads; 2 million tumans for the expansion of airports and construction of terminals and other buildings at small airports; 36.3 million tumans will be spent on construction of new rural roads. We have a total of 121 million allocated for the roads department.

The water authority in the province has a budget allocation of approximately 47 million tumans, of which 2.7 million is allocated for small water projects and 44.53 million for the water facilities in cities.

The regional power authority has a budget of 40 million tumans for this year.

The entire budget will be spent for the electrification of villages -- that is, the entire budget of the electricity authority has been allocated by the committee for planning and use for the expansion and electrification of our dear villages. This totals 445.86 million tumans of the province's budget.

[Question] How does the budget figure you mentioned compare to last year's?

[Answer] It is nearly the same as last year's. In addition around 280 million tumans has been allocated by the government for expansion of the fishing industry. This has been progressing well. Agreements have been signed for construction of facilities and the allocation will be spent on the construction of a freezing tunnel [as heard], cold storage facilities and other facilities which can take the fish from the fishermen and also serve them. You can ask our brother Mr (Qaddad), who is the managing director of the fishery department. Thus if you add the two figures we have approximately around 720 million.

There are also some national projects underway in the province. I do not have the statistics for them but it is a considerable sum.

BRIEFS

ARMS, TRANSCEIVER DISCOVERIES -- Quchan antinarcotics squad personnel arrested 'Ali Hasan Azadeh for possession of two transceivers with a range of 12 kilometers. Pol-e Dokhtar revolution guards in six missions arrested 8 hypocrites and discovered the following arms: 144 various types of light weapons, 13,432 rounds of ammunition, 14 Kalashnikov magazines, 13 G-3 magazines and a quantity of camping equipment. [Tehran JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI in Persian 1 May 82 p 5 GF]

TRADE WITH PAKISTAN -- Tehran, 15 May (IRNA) -- The volume of commercial exchange between Iran and Pakistan will amount to 500 million dollars by next year, announced Ghulam Ishaq Khan, the Pakistani commerce and finance minister on Saturday in Islamabad. Ishaq Khan further stated that this was only a portion of a short-term agreement recently concluded between Iran and Pakistan when a Pakistani mission paid a visit to Iran. On the basis of another Iran-Pakistan agreement, Pakistan is to import 10,000 barrels of Iranian crude daily and or 500,000 barrels during the next year. [sentence as received] According to a short-term commercial agreement, Iran will import several items of goods including textiles, chicks, rice, iron and steel, fertilizer, sugar, meat, and fish from Pakistan. Iran will further export to Pakistan sulfide, raisins, saffron and zinc. [Text] [Tehran IRNA in English 1053 GMT 15 May 92 LD]

TRADE WITH BULGARIA -- According to the Central News Unit, the Bulgarian ambassador and the director general of the Bulgarian Foreign Trade Ministry met this morning with the deputy minister of commerce in charge of foreign trade to discuss the possibility of expanding the commercial relations between the two countries and of increasing the amount of barter exchanges taking place between them. [Excerpt] [Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 18 May 82 LD]

DIRECT TELECOMMUNICATIONS LINKS -- JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI's correspondent has reported from the Iran Telecommunications Company that recently direct communication links without the assistance of an operator have been established with the following countries, using the following codes: Singapore 006, Norway 0047, Finland 00358, Denmark 0045, Sweden 0046, Syria 00963, Luxemburg 00352 and Ireland 00353. [Tehran JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI in Persian 3 May 82 p 5 GF]